

**RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661**

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 12, 2019

7:30 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Media Center, Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Herbst called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

A moment of silence took place for the victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Doyle read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were; Ms. Dansky; Ms. Doyle; Ms. Kang; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; Mr. Herbst; also present were Mrs. Napolitano, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Heitman and two members of the public.

Ms. Brown arrived at 9:05 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov stated we had a great start to the 2019-2020 school year. She gave a huge thank you to the custodians, office personnel, business office, administrators, teachers, technology, and health professionals. Mr. Henzel is on a medical leave so Dr. Ben-Dov has been spending a lot of time at Roosevelt School. She thanked Ms. Christine Moran and Mrs. Heitman for all the help they have given to her filling various Roosevelt School related responsibilities. She also stated that the Roosevelt School Community pulled together beautifully during Mr. Henzel’s absence.
- There are last minute personnel appointments on tonight’s agenda. We have some resignations and some new hires. We are still looking for a part time Resource Room Teacher.

- Dr. Ben-Dov read the following River Edge School District Student Safety Data Report: As reported to the State, during reporting Period 2 there were six HIB investigations reported for the River Edge School District. Cherry Hill School had three investigations which were all confirmed as HIB. Roosevelt School had three investigations and they are not confirmed as HIB. Dr. Ben-Dov discussed some of the HIB training and prevention activities being implemented by the River Edge School District.
- We revamped the academic part of summer school. This is the first year. We shared information with parents that this would be a different program, teachers were highly qualified in the areas they were working in, data was assessed and collected, and attendance was taken. Gains were related to attendance. There was growth in both ELA and Math but growth in math was higher than in ELA. Dr. Ben-Dov was glad we did this and thanked the board members for their support.
- We haven't submitted our goals yet this school year because we are waiting for the academic goals and teachers are now assessing so they can form their Student Growth Objectives (SGO's). This works into our academic goals for the schools and district goals. We will have our goals on an agenda in October. Some of the goals we already have started working on are social emotional which include: responsive classroom, Wingman initiative, and the Youth Truth Climate Survey. The surveys will be in English, Korean, and Spanish.
- We are on Instagram since the start of school and we have approximately 350 followers. We will be linked to Facebook very soon. This is related to our parent communication and engagement goal.
- We are all set with our Artists-in-Residence. We will have theatre in fourth grade for 12 weeks and dance in third grade for eight weeks across the district and each residency will culminate with a performance.
- Our enrollment has decreased a little bit since Dr. Ben-Dov's last update. Our total enrollment is 1,249 students with 508 students at Roosevelt and 741 students at Cherry Hill School. The new apartment complex yielded five families with a total of six students. Fourth grade at Cherry Hill School has closed so we sent a total of eight students to Roosevelt: five fourth graders and their siblings.
- Everything is in great shape with our buildings. Students are using the Roosevelt School air conditioned gymnasium. The Cherry Hill School Media Center is being used along with the adjacent classroom that was created. The renovated Teacher's Lounges are being used and the black top at Roosevelt School had stenciling work done to it. Dr. Ben-Dov would like to thank the PTO for this and the custodians for painting it. It looks great!
- Our Committee Meetings will be on September 17th. Dr. Ben-Dov will send the agenda to the chairs of the committees. She said that the November 21st committee meeting needed to be switched to November 18th. All agreed to that date.
- Our Librarians spent the day in the River Edge Public Library. They made a good connection.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Mrs. Heitman welcomed everyone to the start of the 2019-2020 school year. She stated we are off to a great start.
- There was a well-attended PTO Tea and first PTO meeting on Friday, September 6th. We had a special guest, Lieutenant Walker from the River Edge Police Department to talk mostly about traffic.
- Liberty Science partnership has started at Roosevelt School and will begin at Cherry Hill School next week
- We are very excited about our district using Instagram
- Staff is working to set up procedures and guidelines using our positive social emotional approaches. Both schools are using the Margaret Wheatly's slogan: Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Each Other, Take Care of This Place.
- Back to School Night will be on Thursday, September 19th at both schools
- We are working with the PTO's for our New Family Reception on Thursday, September 26th at Cherry Hill School at 6:30 PM
- Picture day for Cherry Hill School will be on Friday, September 27th
- Mrs. Heitman has been working very well with Mr. James. He is learning all the procedures and getting to know all the students.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- The Facility Assessment has been completed and we will update the committee and board members once we have the final report
- The HVAC installation is complete. We are finishing the balancing and control work. We will be using the gym until the end of September and then we will have the gym floors refinished. This project went smoothly and we are happy with the contractor's work.
- The Media Center is complete and is being used as per our plans. The flooring was replaced, smart boards, phones, and speakers were all installed.
- The buildings were thoroughly cleaned and repairs were completed over the summer. Our Teacher's Rooms got new flooring, refrigerators, sinks, microwaves, and toaster ovens.
- New copiers were installed in our schools. We are now using our swipe cards to retrieve our copies.
- Discussions have continued with the Borough Administrator and we have a meeting planned with him, the recreation director, the principals, myself, and Dr. Ben-Dov regarding use of facilities.
- The yearly playground inspection was completed with one minor repair being done to the equipment
- Mrs. Napolitano met with Mrs. Hafers regarding Sustainable New Jersey Green Team

- Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City was booked for the NJSBA Convention from October 21, 2019 to October 24, 2019. Please let me know if you are attending.
- Free and reduced milk applications were placed on the parent portal, on the website, and paper copies were sent home to all students. Sending paper copies home may have increased student's families the ability to respond. The forms are available on our website and in the front offices in English, Spanish, and Korean for anyone that may still need an application.
- We will be presenting to all staff in conjunction with Open Enrollment a health care presentation to better inform the staff of their health care options. There will be two presentations, one at each school, and a follow up question and answer session with the ability for staff to communicate privately with the agents. There will be an interactive personal shopper on the computer to help each person select based on their personal needs.

PRESIDENT

Mr. Herbst reported on the following:

- Mr. Herbst interned this summer for an educational law firm that deals with a lot of districts in Central Jersey. They allowed him to take a binder that the firm gives to every attorney there. Mr. Herbst shared this binder with the board members. He said it's a quick reference for legal questions.
- Mr. Herbst attended a Leadership weekend in May where they discussed committee reports. They discussed written reports for each committee report. These reports will be scanned in and given as an attachment for the board meetings.

COMMITTEES

- The Ad Hoc Committee will be abolished. All other policies will go to the committee it belongs to.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

1. That the Board of Education approve the Confidential Minutes of June 26, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Doyle
Seconded by Mrs. Myers

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Kang, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None, Abstained: Ms. Doyle, Mrs. Myers

2. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of July 31, 2019.

Motion by Mrs. Myers
Seconded by Ms. Kang

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None, Abstained: Mrs. Myers

3. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for September 2019 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the Special Milk Pricing at a rate of \$.33 per day for the 2019-2020 school year.

5. That the Board of Education approve the Student Safety Data Report on incidents of Violence; Vandalism; Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) and HIB training and programs for Reporting Period 2 (January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019).
6. That the Board of Education approve the following State Contract vendors for 2019-2020.

School Specialty	Contract # 17/Food-00242	Instructional Supplies
Howard Computer	Contract # MNWNC-114	Technology
Spruce Industries	ESCNJ #17/18 -47	Custodial Supplies
Northeast Janitorial	ESCNJ #17/18 -47	Custodial Supplies
Northeast Janitorial	ESCNJ#18/19-35	Custodial Equipment
CDW Government (Cisco)	Contract# ESCNJ18/19-03 (18/19-03)	Technology

7. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
4111.2/4211.2	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
4116	EVALUATION OF TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS
4222	NONINSTRUCTIONAL AIDES
5142.2	PHYSICAL RESTRAINT
6151	CLASS SIZE
6154	HOMEWORK/MAKEUP WORK
6156	INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING/SCHEDULING
6161.2	COMPLAINTS REGARDING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
6163.1	MEDIA CENTER/LIBRARY
6163.3	LIVE ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM
6164.4	CHILD STUDY TEAM
6171	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS
6171.2	GIFTED AND TALENTED
6171.5	IEE
6173	HOME INSTRUCTION
6300	EVALUATION OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

Motion by Ms. Kang
 Seconded by Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
 Nays: None

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. That the Board of Education approve to donate three outdated nurse's cell phones to 911 Cell Phone Bank.

Motion by Ms. Dansky
 Seconded by Mr. Sim

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
 Nays: None

C. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and St. Peter's Academy to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Stepping Stone Learning Center to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Yeshiva of North Jersey to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Ms. Doyle

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education accept the \$280.00 donation from Jennifer Wong Hernandez for general use at Roosevelt School (Addendum).

Motion by Ms. Doyle
Seconded by Mrs. Myers

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Samantha Rosenbloom, Teacher, starting September 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, BA, Step 3.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Toni Ann Tuosto, Part-time Resource Teacher (.6), starting September 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, MA, Step 5.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Jessica Cordero, Lunch Aide, for the 2019-2020 school year.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following Part-time 504 Aides, for the 2019-2020 school year.

Sharon Bene
Nathalie Sterling
Eugenia Tavarez

5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Joyce Kelleher, Part-time Clerical Aide, 25 hours per week for the 2019-2020 school year.
6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Nerissa Smith, Part-time Aide, for the 2019-2020 school year.
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Nancy Cho, Part-time Aide, for the 2019-2020 school year.

8. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of Andrea Friedlander, School Nurse, effective October 15, 2019.
9. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Ashley Suarez, ABA Aide, effective July 31, 2019.
10. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Jamie Woods, ABA Aide, effective July 31, 2019.
11. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Nestor Ortiz, Region V Transportation Coordinator, effective August 16, 2019.
12. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Child Care leave of absence for Tara Malkowski to commence upon the completion of her already approved Family leave on March 26, 2020, through June 30, 2020.
13. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as substitute teachers for the 2019-2020 School Year:
 - Chloe Ambrose
 - Meredith Arabas
 - Carol Gardocki
 - George Ives
14. That the Board of Education approve Nichol Del Rosso for Roosevelt Student Council Advisor for the 2019-2020 School Year.
15. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Colleen Poole, Editor, of the River Edge Web-based Publication, as per contractual stipend, for the 2019-2020 school year.
16. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Toni Ann Tuosto, Part-time Resource Teacher (.6), effective on or about November 6, 2019.
17. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Laura Lombardi, Teacher, effective on or about October 14, 2019.
18. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Sandy Gerbino, Teacher, starting on or about October 14, 2019 through June 30, 2020, BA, Step 7.

Motion by Mrs. Myers
Seconded by Ms. Kang

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education (the “Board”) is the lead education agency (“LEA”) for the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education (“Region V”); and

WHEREAS, Region V provides shared services for its member districts such as evaluations, direct services, and consultation; and

WHEREAS, as the LEA, the Board must approve the consultant agreements of the providers that Region V utilizes to deliver shared services to its member districts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, re-approves the consultant agreements of the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, and Translators to provide evaluations, direct services, and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2019-2020 school year:

Fit & Well Physical Therapy PC	Physical Therapy Assistant	Consultant
Maria Lucibello	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant	Evaluator
Debbie Hollender LLC	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant	Evaluator
PF Speech Therapist LLC	Speech and Language Specialist	Non-public
Irene Stein	Teacher Consultant	Non-public

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Region V Council for Special Education will provide shared services for its member districts and be it further resolved that the River Edge Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Region V Transporters for member districts upon request for the 2019-2020 school year:

Eastern Star Trans Inc.	Transporter
Horizon Transportation Inc.	Transporter
Shaddai Transportation Inc.	Transporter

3. That the Board of Education approve the following Renewal contracts for the 2019-2020 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2704	We Care Transportation	\$207.97
2723	We Care Transportation	\$312.47
2554	We Care Transportation	\$243.48
2217	We Care Transportation	\$299.64
2228	We Care Transportation	\$263.72
2681	We Care Transportation	\$356.43
2318	We Care Transportation	\$318.55
1529	Rinaldi Transportation	\$242.25
2689	Rinaldi Transportation	\$242.25
2648	Madison Coach	\$379.42

4. That the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract for the 2019-2020 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
1132	We Care Transportation	\$221.00
1133	We Care Transportation	\$251.00
2235	We Care Transportation	\$280.00

Motion by Ms. Kang
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky stated there will be a Delegate Assembly on October 3rd at the Clinton Inn in Tenafly.

Ms. Dansky stated Dr. Ben-Dov, Mr. Herbst, and Ms. Dansky will be presenting at the NJSBA Fall Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Ms. Dansky asked Ms. Christine O' Keefe to tell the board members her experience with Donors Choose.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Sim to convene into closed session at 8:42 PM.

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Dansky to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:16 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator